

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): An Apparatus for converting a valve means for use as a flow meter for fluid, comprising:

- (i) a valve housing;
- (ii) a movable valve of said valve housing;
- (iii) means for measuring differential pressure across the valve housing;
- (iv) means adapted to provide current position of said valve; and
- (v) means adapted to calculate flow rate from said measured differential pressure and said current valve position.

Claim 4 (Canceled)

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The Apparatus as defined in Claim 3, wherein said optimal placement comprises optimal tapping locations on said valve housing.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The Apparatus as defined in Claim 3, wherein said measuring means comprises optimal tapping locations on said valve housing, and wherein there is a removable plug at each optimal tapping location.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The Apparatus as defined in Claim 3, wherein the valve means comprises a valve and a push-fit connector, said valve being operable when said connector is connected therewith, and automatically closable when said connector is removed.

Claim 8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The Apparatus as defined in Claim 3, wherein there is a differential pressure sensing element of said valve housing, said element being adapted to measure differential pressure across the valve means.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The Apparatus as defined in Claim 9, wherein there is electronic means for interrogating said pressure sensing element.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The Apparatus as defined in Claim 10, wherein said interrogating means is positioned remotely from said valve means.

Claim 12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The Apparatus as defined in Claim 3, wherein the means adapted to calculate a flow rate is at least one of a calibration surface and a means of calculating a flow rate from a measured differential pressure across the valve and position of the valve.

Claims 14-15 (Canceled)

Claim 16 (New): A system comprising:
a plurality of pipe sections, at least one pipe section coupled to a valve housing;
a movable valve of said valve housing;
means for measuring differential pressure across the valve housing;
means adapted to provide current position of said valve; and
means adapted to calculate flow rate from said measured differential pressure and said current valve position,
wherein the plurality of pipe sections operate to distribute water.

Claim 17 (New): An apparatus comprising:

- a valve housing including a movable valve;
- means for measuring differential pressure across the valve housing;
- means adapted to provide current position of said valve; and
- means adapted to calculate flow rate from said measured differential pressure and said current valve position,

wherein the valve is converted to a flow meter for fluid.